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TICKHILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

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for Year ended 31st December, 1955

A. PENMAN, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

Tickhill Urban District Council

Divisional Health Office,
Station Road,
Doncaster,
August, 1956.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE TICKHILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report on the health of the Urban District in accordance with my statutory duty.

The vital statistics show that there was no infant and no maternal mortality and that the death rate from general causes was low. One death from tuberculosis caused the death rate from tuberculosis to be higher than the corresponding rates for England and Wales and for the West Riding. The birth rate was the lowest for many years.

Notifiable infectious diseases were very few indeed and a mass miniature radiography survey disclosed no unusual incidence of tuberculosis.

The most pressing need of the Urban District is for improvement in the inspection of houses, food premises and workshops. In many cases, particularly in food premises, there is insufficient information upon which to base advice.

I am,
Yours faithfully,

A. PENMAN, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1—Medical Officer of Health:

A. PENMAN, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Also Divisional Medical Officer, W.R.C.C.).

2—Public Health Inspector and Surveyor (part time):

J. HASLAM, M.Inst.M.E., M.R.San.I. (till 30th Sept., 1955).

W. H. N. HASLAM, M.Inst.R.A., M.R.San.I., A.M.Inst.B.E. Worksop (from 1st October, 1955).

3—Meat Inspector (part time):

J. BOWETT, M.R.C.V.S., Worksop.

Council Offices:

Westgate, Tickhill (Tel. No. Tickhill 215)

Health Office:

Divisional Offices, Station Road, Doncaster. (Tel. No. Doncaster 61571).

PRINCIPAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1955.

	Tickhill Urban District	Aggregate West Riding Urban Districts	England & Wales
1. Birth Rate per 1,000 population	10.2	14.8	15.0
2. Death Rates per 1,000 population:			
(a) All causes ...	7.0	12.5	11.7
(b) Tuberculosis ...	0.39	0.13	0.15
3. Infant mortality per 1,000 live births ...	0.0	25.2	24.9
4. Maternal mortality per 1,000 live births ...	0.0	0.45	0.64

SECTION A

VITAL STATISTICS

Area of the district (including 6 acres of water)	5,580 acres
Registrar General's estimate of the population	2,560
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1955) ...	833
Rateable Value (1st April, 1956)	£21,445
Sum represented by a penny rate	£89 7s. 1d.

LIVE BIRTHS:—

	M.	F.	Total	
Legitimate ...	16	10	26	10.2 rate per 1,000 population.
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	

STILL BIRTHS:—

M.	F.	Total	
—	—	—	Nil

DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE:—

M.	F.	Total	
—	—	—	Nil

DEATHS ALL CAUSES:—

M.	F.	Total	
8	10	18	7.0 rate per 1,000 population.

DEATHS FROM MATERNAL CAUSES:—

M.	F.	Total	
—	—	—	Nil

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS:—

M.	F.	Total	
1	—	1	0.39 rate per 1,000 population.

POPULATION:

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year home population was 2,560 which is the same as in the previous year.

BIRTHS:

The number of live births at 26 was 14 less than in 1954.

DEATHS:

18 deaths from all causes were recorded against a total of 31 in 1954. The general death rate fell from 12.1 to 7.0. Of the total deaths, 7 were due to diseases of the heart or blood vessels, 1 to tuberculosis, and 2 to neoplasm.

MATERNAL MORTALITY:

There was no maternal death during 1955 for the eighteenth successive year.

INFANT MORTALITY:

There was no death of a child under the age of 12 months.

SECTION B

COUNTY COUNCIL SERVICES

Tickhill Urban District is part of Health Division No. 28 of the West Riding County Council and all the nursing services are provided from the staff attached thereto.

HEALTH VISITING:

Miss N. H. Stewardson is the Health Visitor for Tickhill (Telephone No. Doncaster 53997).

HOME NURSING AND MIDWIFERY:

Nurse E. Hawksworth retired from the County Service in June, 1956, and the Home Nursing is now undertaken by Nurse P. Anstock, 7 Low Road, Warmsworth (Telephone No. Doncaster 53860). The midwife is Nurse D. Duckworth, 1 Queen's Crescent, Bawtry (Telephone No. Bawtry 312).

During the year home nurses made 1,580 visits to 89 patients, 184 being for the purpose of injections only. 15 confinements were attended by midwives.

HOME HELP SCHEME:

Home help was supplied for 3 households, attending for 524½ hours. Applications for this service should be made to the Divisional Health Office, Station Road, Doncaster.

SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTIONS:

Routine medical inspection was carried out at the Infants' and Junior schools, and defects were treated at Consultant and minor ailment clinics.

AMBULANCE SERVICE:

All applications for this service should be made direct to the Ambulance Officer, 1 Yarborough Terrace, Bentley (Telephone No. Doncaster 49468). This depot controls other smaller sub-depots.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

(including the Report of the Public Health Inspector under the Sanitary Officers' Order).

No. of Public Health Inspections or visits ...	34
Total No. of inspections made in 1955 for nuisances only	24
Informal Notices for abatement of Nuisances	
outstanding at 31/12/54	6
Issued in 1955	7
Abated in 1955	9
Outstanding at 31/12/55	4
Visits to premises registered under Section 14, Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the sale of Ice Cream	8
Shops Act, 1950, Section 38—	
Visits made	9

WATER SUPPLY:

The public supply is provided by the Don Valley Water Board and has proved to be of excellent quality and of moderate hardness over many years. Of the 833 inhabited houses 789 are now connected to this supply; the remainder being outlying properties with private wells.

No shortage of water was reported during the year.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL:

Some houses in the Lindrick area, which is too low to drain without pumping, and others in outlying parts to the total of 48 are not connected to the public sewer. The sewers are for the combined purpose of sewage and rain water.

The new sewage works are modern, consisting of one sedimentation tank, two percolating filters with sprinklers, and six sludge beds. Provision for storm overflow has been made by use of the old sewage works at such times. Nevertheless, overloading does occur during periods of heavy rainfall owing to the storm water being mixed with sewage in single combined sewers.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION:

The present position can be summarised thus:—

Water Closets	...	868
Pail Closets	...	6
Privies ...	...	23

PUBLIC CLEANSING:

The collection and disposal of dry refuse is carried out entirely by the Council's own workmen and equipment, a weekly service being maintained. Disposal is chiefly by controlled tipping; about 10 per cent. is destroyed and a similar amount disposed to farmers.

SECTION D

HOUSING

Fourteen houses were inspected for defects, six being considered unfit for human habitation.

Two houses were built by private enterprise. A provisional estimate of fifty houses likely to form the basis of a programme to deal with unfit houses was furnished to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

SECTION E

SUPERVISION OF FOOD

In 1955 there were seven producer/retailers and three retailers of milk in the District. There were also about 24 shops and cafes, etc., where food was sold or prepared for sale. Some of the latter sold ice-cream.

The present arrangement for the registration and inspection needs improvement. It is, of course, bound up with the question of basic sanitary inspection, which has recently occupied the attention of the Council.

One death from paratyphoid was strongly suspected of being associated with a pork pie consigned from a neighbouring town where a similar but far more extensive outbreak was in progress. Since the organisms recovered from the local case and from major outbreak were untypable no definite conclusion was arrived at, as the origin of the infection was not proved. No further incident occurred.

Meat & Other Foods—Report of Mr. J. Bowett, M.R.C.V.S.

The following is the report of the Inspector of Meat and Other Foods:—

During 1955 inspections were carried out at the butchers' shops in Tickhill every week—home killed meat was inspected at the three slaughterhouses.

The inspection of tinned and other foods was carried out at the shops.

As I stated in my report last year, in my opinion the slaughtering arrangements are still quite satisfactory.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Age and Sex Incidence—arranged in the manner prescribed by the Registrar-General.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1955:

Age Group	Whooping Cough		Measles	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—
1— 2 years	—	—	—	2
3— 4 years	—	4	—	3
5— 9 years	—	1	—	2
10—14 years	—	—	—	1
15—24 years	—	—	—	—
25 and over	—	—	—	—
Total	—	5	—	8

AGE GROUP	PARATYPHOID FEVERS		PNEUMONIA	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years ...	—	—	—	—
5—14 years	—	—	—	—
15—44 years	—	—	—	1
45—64 years	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	1	—	—
TOTAL	—	1	—	1

AGE GROUP	TUBERCULOSIS Respiratory	
	M.	F.
Under 5 years ...	—	—
5—14 years	—	—
15—24 years	1	—
25—44 years	1	—
45—64 years	—	—
65 and over	—	—
TOTAL	2	—

The year was notable for the small number of cases of infectious disease. Scarlet fever, diphtheria and poliomyelitis were absent entirely. The case of paratyphoid is referred to under supervision of food.

STATE OF IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA—YEAR ENDED 31/12/55.

Under 1 yr.	Under 5					5—9 yrs.	10—14 yrs.	Total under 15 years
Born	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1946-50	1941-45	
Immunised	95					368		463
Child population under 5—183						Child population 5 to 14—437		620
Percentage immunised: under 5—52.						Percentage immunised 5 to 14—84		74

The state of immunisation against diphtheria remains fairly satisfactory.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX—Number:

	Vaccinated	Re-vaccinated
Pre-school children	11	—
School children	1	—
Adults	—	—
	12	—

Having regard to the number of live births (the annual average for 1954 and 1955 was 32) the acceptance rate for infants under 1 year was 34 per cent., which compares favourably with the similar rate for England and Wales and for the County generally.

TUBERCULOSIS:

There were two notifications of new cases of tuberculosis (both male respiratory cases) received during the year.

Remaining on the register at the end of the year were:

Respiratory cases	14
Non-respiratory	3
	17

This represents a decrease of 1 case over the previous year. There was 1 male death from respiratory tuberculosis.

Mass Miniature Radiography

In May the South Yorkshire Mass Miniature Radiography Unit visited Tickhill for two days preceded by a publicity campaign. 843 persons (370 males and 473 females), including 8 teachers and 151 school children, made use of the service afforded.

As a result of the survey 1 case of active and 3 cases of inactive tuberculosis were disclosed, together with 17 with chest abnormalities unrelated to tuberculosis. These 17 abnormalities included:

	No.
Emphysema	1
Bronchiectasis	1
Pulmonary Fibrosis (non-tuberculous)	1
Pneumoconiosis	5
Pleural Thickening (non-tuberculous)	2
Congenital abnormalities of heart and blood vessels	1
Acquired abnormalities of heart and blood vessels	4
Bacterial and Virus infections	2

These cases were referred for treatment at the Chest Clinic or by their own doctors. The Medical Officer of the Unit thought the response of the public was considerably higher than usual and the results excellent.

There was no evidence from the sample examined that tuberculosis was prevalent in an extraordinary degree.

SECTION 47. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 AND 1951.

No cases were dealt with under this Section.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

No. of factories on the register	10
No. of inspections made	0
No. of cases in which defects were found ...	0
No. of defects remedied	0
No. of registered out-workers	1

The health visitor reported that conditions at the registered outworkers' home were good.

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